DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 125 753 24 PS 008 646

AUTHOR Bernstein, Joanne, Comp.
TITLE Helping Children Cope with Death and Separation: Resources for Teachers.
INSTITUTION ERIC Clearinghouse on Early Childhood Education, Urbana, Ill.
SPONS AGENCY National Inst. of Education (DHEW), Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE May 76
NOTE 37p.
AVAILABLE FROM Publications Office, I.C.B.D., College of Education, University of Illinois, 805 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61801 (Catalog No. 146, $1.85)

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 HC-$2.06 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Adjustment (to Environment); *Annotated Bibliographies; *Bibliotherapy; *Death; *Early Childhood Education; Resource Guides
IDENTIFIERS *Educational Resources Information Center; ERIC

ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography was prepared for the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) Clearinghouse on Early Childhood Education as a resource for teachers to use in helping young children cope with death and separation. It includes (1) a selected list of children's books which treat death, (2) a selected list of children's books which treat separation, (3) books about bibliotherapy, (4) a selected list of films, filmstrips, and cassettes which treat death and separation, (5) references from "Resources in Education", and (6) references from "Current Index to Journals in Education". (JMB)

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HELPING CHILDREN COPE WITH DEATH AND SEPARATION: RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

by

Joanne Bernstein

Available from:
Publications Office/ICBD
College of Education/University of Illinois
805 West Pennsylvania Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Price: $1.85 Catalog # 146

May 1976

The material in this publication was prepared pursuant to a contract with the National Institute of Education, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Contractors undertaking such projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their judgement in professional and technical matters. Prior to publication, the manuscript was submitted to the Area Committee for Early Childhood Education at the University of Illinois for critical review and determination of professional competence. This publication has met such standards. Points of view or opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the official view or opinions of either the Area Committee or the National Institute of Education.

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A SELECTED LIST OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS WHICH TREAT DEATH

Abbott, Sarah. The Old Dog. Howard-McCann and Geoghegan, 1972. (5-9)

A boy's dog dies, leaving him feeling empty.

Bartoli, Jennifer. Nonna. Harvey, 1975. (4-8)

Children take part in funerary rites and estate decisions after their gradmother's death.

Brown, Margaret Wise. The Dead Bird. Young Scott, 1965. (4-8)

A funeral for a found bird. One of the classics in this field, written before its time.

Cooney, Barbara. Cock Robin. Scribner's, 1965. (4-8)

Loss as experienced by animals in the woods.

Coutant, Helen. First Snow. Knopf, 1974. (5-8)

Death as seen from the Buddhist point of view.

Fassler, Joan. My Grandpa Died Today. Behavioral, 1971. (4-8)

A boy's feelings when his grandfather dies. Instructional in tone.

Kantrowitz, Mildred. When Violet Died. Parents', 1973. (4-8)

The life cycle, as seen when a pet bird dies.

Miles, Miska. Annie and the Old One. Little, Brown, 1971. (5-9)

Philosophical acceptance of old age and death on an Indian reservation.

Ness, Evaline. Sam Bangs and Moonshine. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1966. (4-8)

Fantasies after a mother's death.

Stein, Sarah. About Dying. Walker, 1974. (4-8)

A semi-non-fictional attempt to deal with life and death. Dual narratives - one for adults and one for children.

Uchida, Yoshiko. The Birthday Visitor. Scribner's, 1975. (5-8)

A funeral needn't be a sad event, as seen in a Japanese family.

Viorst, Judith. The Tenth Good Thing About Barney. Atheneum, 1971. (4-8)

Barney, a cat, has died, and his owner eulogizes him at a funeral. He learns to appreciate the cycle of life.

Warburg, Sandol. Growing Time. Houghton-Mifflin, 1969. (6-9)

Coping with the death of a dog and learning to understand life.

Zolotow, Charlotte. My Grandson Lew. Harper and Row, 1974. (4-8)

Lew is not told of his grandfather's death and waits for his return. He mourns him years later, as he and his mother evoke touching memories.

A SELECTED LIST OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS WHICH TREAT SEPARATION

Adams, Florence. Mushy Eggs. Putnam's 1973. (4-8)

David tells of his parents' divorce, his mother's working, and his babysitter.

Baldwin, Anne. A Friend in the Park. Four Winds, 1973. (4-8)

Eric and his single mother move from California to Paris.

Baldwin, Anne. Jenny's Revenge. Four Winds, 1974. (5-8)

When Jenny's newly-divorced mother goes off to teach, Jenny takes an instant dislike to her babysitter, a traditional sexist woman.

Binzen, Bill. Carmen. Coward-McCann, 1969. (4-8)

Carmen is newly arrived in New York City from Puerto Rico and misses her sunny home until she meets a friend.

Blaine, Marge. The Terrible Thing That Happened at Our House. Parents, 1975. (4-8)

Family life turns upside-down when Mother returns to work.

Breinburg, Petronella. Shawn Goes to School. Crowell, 1973. (3-6)

Shawn is sad when his sister goes to school, but even sadder when he is taken to nursery school. Teacher and children eventually make him comfortable.

Caines, Jeannette. Abby. Harper and Row, 1973. (4-8)

Brother-sister squabbling and loving take place in adoptive homes, too.

Child Study Association of America. Families are Like That! Crowell, 1975. (5-9)

Ten stories, previously printed individually, are reprinted with new illustrations. Topics include separation because of employment, adoption, unemployment, death of relatives, divorce, and foster care.

Clifton, Lucille. Everett Anderson's Year. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1974. (4-8)

Like the others in the series, this poetry anthology tells of the life of a black child in a single-parent family.

Goff, Betty. Where's Daddy: The Story of a Divorce. Beacon, 1969. (4-8)

Graphic depiction of divorce and a small girl's anger and confusion.

Greenfield, Eloise. She Come Bringing Me that Baby Girl. Lippincott, 1974, (4-8)

A new sibling is a mixed blessing.

Hellberg, Hans-Eric. Grandpa's Maria. Morrow 1974. (7-10)

During her mother's hospitalization for a nervous breakdown, Maria stays with her comforting grandfather but seeks out her mysterious father.

Hickman, Martha. I'm Moving. Abingdon, 1974. (4-8)

A boy adjusts by relating what he can take and what has to stay behind, e.g., "We'd take my bike, but not my sidewalk."

Jordan, June. New Room, New Life. Crowell, 1974. (5-9)

When a family expects its fourth child, measures must be taken to alleviate crowding.

Kindred, Wendy. Lucky Wilma. Dial Press, 1973. (4-7)

Wilma's father visits her and takes her somewhere every Saturday. An unexpected event brings them closer during their weekly visit.

Kraus, Robert. Big Brother. Parents', 1973. (3-7)

Little Brother feels terrible in his family position. On top of it all, his mother is hospitalized. Before long, though, he is a Big Brother, too.

LaFargem Phyllis. Joanna Runs Away. Holt, Rinehart,and Winston, 1973. (5-8)

Joanna runs away to escape lonely afternoons while her mother works.

Lapsley, Susan. I Am Adopted. Bradbury, 1975. (3-6)

Simple activities enjoyed by most families are charmingly described by an adopted child.

Lasker, Joe. Mothers Can Do Anything. Whitman, 1972. (4-8)

Mothers are ditchdiggers, architects, plumbers, dentists, teachers, and filmmakers.

Lexau, Joan. Me Day. Dial, 1971. (6-9)

An unemployed father deserts his loving family, but returns after his child's birthday.

Mathis, Sharon Bell. Sidewalk Story. Viking, 1971. (7-10)

A young girl shows ingenious imagination in preventing her friend's eviction.

Newfield, Marcia. A Book for Jodan. Atheneum, 1975. (6-10)

Jodan's father creates a scrapbook of memories to ease her burden during the divorce.

Rex, Margaret, and Rey, H.A. Curious George Goes to the Hospital. Houghton Mifflin, 1966. (4-8)

Hospital procedures are explained in a humorous, comforting background.

Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. I Want Mama. Harper and Row, 1974. (4-8)

Mother goes to the hospital for an operation.

Sitea, Linda. "Zachary's Divorce," pp. 124-127, in Free to be You and Me, ed. by Carole Hart, Letty Coltin Pogrebin, Mary Rodgers, and Marlo Thomas. McGraw-Hill, 1974. (4-8)

Zachary wakes to find his father gone.

Sobol, Harriet. Jeff's Hospital Book. Walck, 1975. (4-5)

A two-night stay at a hospital for an operation to uncross Jeff's eyes is shown.

Sonneborn, Ruth. Friday Night is Papa Night. Viking, 1970. (4-8)

Pedro's father returns home only on weekends, as he must work at two far-away jobs in order to make ends meet.

Sonneborn, Ruth. I Love Gram. Viking, 1971. (4-8)

Ellie is heartbroken when her grandmother is hospitalized. Also depicts a working mother.

Sonneborn, Ruth. The Lollipop Party. Viking, 1967. (4-8)

Tomas' working mother does not return home on time and he must fend for himself.

Stein, Sara Bonnett. A Hospital Story. Walker, 1974. (4-8)

A young girl's tonsillectomy is depicted in photographs and simple words.

Steptoe, John. Stevie. Harper and Row, 1969. (4-8)

Stevie's stay with Robert's mother while his own mother works is greeted with disdain--until Stevie leaves.

Taylor, Mildred. Song of the Trees. Dial, 1975. (7-10)

Lumber contractors try to force a Black Mississippi family to sell their beloved trees.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. Too Hot for Ice Cream. Dial, 1974. (4-8)

The independence which results from having a working mother and absent father can lead to unexpected benefits.

Waber, Bernard. Ira Sleeps Over. Houghton Mifflin, 1972. (3-7)

Ira doesn't know if he should take his teddy bear on his first night sleeping at a neighbor's.

Wells, Rosemary. Noisy Nora. Dial, 1973. (3-7)

A tale humorously written in verse concerning a girl who runs away for lack of attention.

Zolotow, Charlotte. A Father Like That. Harper and Row, 1971. (4-8)

Fantasies about the ideal father in the absence of any at all are responded to warmly.

Zolotow, Charlotte. Janey. Harper and Row, 1973. (4-8)

The many emotions evoked when a dear friend moves are tenderly revealed.

BOOKS (AND CHAPTERS IN BOOKS) ABOUT BIBLIOTHERAPY

Bailey, Matilda. "Therapeutic Reading." In Readings About Children's Literature, ed. by Evelyn Robinson. New York: David McKay, 1966.

Bernstein, Joanne E. Helping Children Cope With Loss: A Bibliotherapy Approach. New York: R. R. Bowker Company, in press.

Burch, Robert. "The New Realism." In Children and Literature: Views and Reviews, ed. by Virginia Haviland. Glenview, Ill.: Scott, Foresman, 1973.

Crosby, M., ed. Reading Ladders for Human Relations. Washington, D.C.: American Council on Education, 1963.

Flandorf, V.S. Books to Help Children Adjust to a Hospital Situation. Chicago: American Library Association, 1967.

Frank, Josette. "Literature of Human Understanding." In Readings About Children's Literature, ed. by Evelyn Robinson. New York: David McKay, 1966.

Homeze, Alma. "Children Face Themselves Through Books: A Bibliography." In Remedial Reading, an Anthology of Sources, ed. by Leo M. Schell and Paul C. Burns. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1968.

Kelley, Marjorie E. In Pursuit of Values: A Bibliography of Children's Books. New York: Paulist Press, 1973.

Kiell, Norman. The Adolescent Through Fiction. New York: International Universities Press, 1959.

Kingston, Carolyn. The Tragic Mode in Children's Literature. New York: Columbia University, Teachers College Press, 1974.

Kircher, Clara. Behavior Patterns in Children's Books: A Bibliography. Washington, D. C.: Catholic University of America Press, 1966.

Monroe, Margaret, ed. Reading Guidance and Bibliotherapy in Public, Hospital and Institution Libraries. Madison, Wis.: Library School, University of Wisconsin, 1971.

Moody, Mildred T., and Limper, Hilda K. Bibliotherapy: Methods and Materials. Chicago: American Library Association, 1971.

Newell, Ethel. "At the North End of Pooh: A Study of Bibliotherapy." In Readings About Children's Literature, ed. by Evelyn Robinson. New York: David McKay, 1966.

Reid, Virginia, ed. Reading Ladders for Human Relations, 5th ed. Washington, D. C. American Council on Education, 1972.

Riggs, Corinne, comp., Raymon Ross, gen. ed. Bibliotherapy: An Annotated Bibliography. Newark, Del.: International Reading Association, 1971.

Schultheis, Sister Miriam. A Guidebook for Bibliotherapy. Glenview, Ill.: Psychotechnics, 1972.

Zaccaria, Joseph, and Moses, Harold. Facilitating Human Development Through Reading: The Use of Bibliotherapy in Teaching and Counseling. Champaign, Ill.: Stipes, 1968.

ADDITIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Gackenbush, Dick. Do You Love Me? Illus. by the author. Seabury, 1975.

An accident painfully teaches a lonely boy that love does not imply possession.

Hegwood, Mamie. My Friend Fish. Illus. by Diane de Groat. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1975.

A black seven year old catches a fish, decides to keep it, and responds to its death.

Schick, Eleanor. Neighborhood Knight. Illus. by the author. Greenwillo, 1976.

A fatherless boy copes imaginatively with city life. His father's absence is unexplained.

A SELECTED LIST OF FILMS, FILMSTRIPS, AND CASSETTES
WHICH TREAT DEATH AND SEPARATION

Films for Children

Boy with Glasses
45 min. B/W 8 mm
$300 $30 rental Educational Film Exchange
Contemporary Films

A shy Japanese boy's family problems will stimulate much discussion when viewed by youngsters over 5.

The Fireman is Sad and Cries
10 min. Color 8 mm
$135 $12.50 rental Szir and Stantic
Contemporary Films

Five-year-olds' fantasies, fears and visions revealed through painting of children and children painting.

The Summer We Moved to Elm Street
28 min. Color 8 mm
$335 $17 rental McGraw-Hill

A very moving and important film dealing with two childhood problems: displacement due to family needs and an awareness of the fallibility of the parents, in this case, alcoholism.

Evan's Corner
24 min. Color 16 mm (k-6)
$295 $20 rental Stephen Bosustow Producers' Serial #(10719)
BFA

Warm and delightful story about a child in a family of eight living in a two-room apartment. Evan wants an area in the apartment for his own but eventually finds it's fun to share and help a younger brother with his corner.

My Dog Is Lost!
10 min. Color 16 mm (k-6)
$145 $12.50 rental Bank Street College of Education Producers' Serial #(655604)
MH

Young Puerto Rican boy finds friends in different places in the city while looking for his lost dog.

Peter's Chair
5:38 min. Color 16mm (Pre K-3)
$90 -- Morton Schindel Producers' Serial # 286
MW

Child feels threatened by his new-born sister, especially when his little chair is to be painted for his sister. Eventyally, he too, learns how to prepare for the new baby.

Families are Different and Alike
13½ min. Color-B/W 8 mm (Primary)
$175, $87.50 -- CORF
CORF

Three children's families are compared and contrasted.

"J.T."
51 min. Color, B/W 16mm
$575, $275 CAROUF
CAROUF

A shy, lonely child finds his own pride and dignity through his devotion to a cat.

Films for Adults

The Child Experts - Environment and Intelligence
40 min. B/W 16 mm
$350 $40 rental
BBC-TV Time Life Films
United States Distributor

British study maintains that child's unbringing depends on the social class of its parents. It has been estimated that by the age of five more than half a child's mental development is complete. Five experts give their views about bringing up children from birth to five.

Child Beater
15 min. -- 8 mm
-- Free
Children's Memorial Hospital

Case study of beaten child and its mother. A strong film useful in helping workers understand the way of life for some children.

Children in Peril (1972)
22 min. Color 8 mm
$300 -- Marlene Saunders
ABC Media Concepts

A well-organized, emotional film, investigating child abuse and some methods being developed for the prevention of this problem.

A Child's Eyes: November 22, 1963
9 min. Color 8 mm
$135 $12.50 rental Richard Snodgrass
Contemporary Films

A most interesting reevaluation of children's fears and perceptions of the adult world seen by the reactions of five- and six-year-olds (through crayon drawings) to the assassination of President Kennedy.

Kate: A Two-Year-Old in Foster Care
33 min. B/W 8 mm
$170 $12 rental James Robertson
New York University

Behavior of a two-year-old in a foster care situation for 27 days clearly indicates that the absence of her parents is causing her stress and concern. A useful film to help illustrated responses young children can have to stress.

Robin, Peter, and Darryl: Three to the Hospital
53 min. B/W 8 mm
-- $17 rental CMC
New York University

Insight into maternal separation, hospitalization, and surgery in relation to children two years, ten months in age.

The Neglected
35 min. B/W 8 mm
-- $9.50 rental MHFB
New York University

Film deals with the abuse and neglect of children. Helps to introduce the need for protective services.

Dangerous Stranger
10 min. Color 8 mm
-- $5 rental Childcare Safe
Syracuse University Film Library

Film deals with child molestation and places and circumstances where such situations may occur.

Joey
27 min. B/W 8 mm
$165 -- IFB
--

Child is abandoned by parents and placed in a foster home. Problems of adoption and placing older children are dealt with. Follow-up film--A Further Glimpse of Joey.

A Further Glimpse of Joey
27 min. B/W 8 mm
$ 165 -- IFB
--

The adjustment problems faced by a six-year-old boy placed with adoptive parents.

Laurette
19 min. B/W 8 mm
$120 -- NFBC
--

Problems of a mother/parent in a single-parent home. This particular mother is not suited for this role.

Mrs. Case
14 min B/W 8 mm
$90 -- NFBC
--

The problems and worries of being a poor person from the ghetto and the only parent in a home.

Filmstrips for Children

How Do You Feel? How Do you feel about your home and family? (Primary and Elem.)
-- --
$39 -- CF
CF

Positive and negative feelings shown in strip help child achieve a better understanding of himself and others.

Peter's Chair
(FS 107) 28 frames color (Pre k-3)
$7.25 (FS 107) 4:07 min with 7 in 33 rpm disc $9.25; with LTR cassette $12.75
Weston Woods WW

Warm story about a child in a family of eight living in a two-room apartment. Evan wants an area in the apartment for his own but eventually finds fun in sharing and helping younger brother with his corner. Illustrations from book accompanied by picture-cued text booklet.

Understanding Death (2-5)
50 - 65 frame Color EPA

Life/Death, Exploring the Cemetary; Facts about Funerals; A Taste of Blackberries $18 each. Includes tape cassette narration and teacher's guide. 12 - 15 minutes each. Set of 5 units includes additional strip-cassette for adults title Children and Death and costs $81.

Understanding Changes in the Family (k-3)
"Little Brother, Big Pest!" "We're Adopted," "Not Together Anymore," "Playing Dead."
5 filmstrips; 5 10" LP/s/5 F-303246 $77.50
5 filmstrips; 5 cassettes/ 5F-303253 $77.50
Discussion Guide/ LC # 73-733115
Guidance Associates

Five separate units stimulate wholesome discussion of family life, emphasizing family cooperation.

Filmstrips for Adults

Children and Death
50 - 65 frames
$18 Includes tape cassette 12-15 minutes. Can be bought as part of Understanding Death series of strip-cassettes for children.
EPA

Answers questions concerning explaining death, handling death of a pet, and building understanding.

Cassettes for Adults

Identity Problems of the Adopted Child and Adults Memorex
Cassette # 88-25
100 min. $2.50

Mrs. Wedgie Schultz, Supervisor of Adoptions, Lutheran Child and Family Services, River Forest, Ill.
CCIC

Problems encountered by adopted children in discovering and establishing their identity.

Help for Parents in Crisis
Cassette #88-40
90 min. $2.50
Jolly K. Founder, Parents Anonymous Redondo Beach, Cal.
Marilyn Collins, Sponsor, First Parents Anonymous Chapter in Ill. (located in Chicago), Chicago, Ill. and G. Shelton Key, Director of Social Services, Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Ill.
CCIC

Child abuse and neglect--avenues of help open to abusing parents and how to obtain help available.

New Minorities: Changing Roles of Men and Women and Changing Kinds of Families Memorex
Cassette #90-74
75 min. $2.50
Harriet Heath, formerly Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pa., Robert Seidenbert, Syracuse, N. Y., John E. Adams, Holt Adoption Program, Inc., Creswell, Oregon, and Pam Roby, Brandeis University, Cambridge, Mass.
CCIC

Child development and parent responsibility. How do changes in personal family roles affect the children?

Unwed Mothers: The Girl Who Keeps Her Baby Memorex
Cassette #93-10
50 min $2.50
Florence Brown Kreech, Director Louise Wise Services, N. Y., N. Y.
CCIC

Unwed mothers living with and caring for their children. Considerations in selection of supportive services.

The Foster Child's Three Sets of Parents Memorex
Cassette #93-12
45 min. $2.50
Mary E. Reistroffer, Supra
CCIC

A child's reactions to natural parents, foster parents and case worker.

Is Pain Part of the Healing Process for the Placed Child? Memorex
Cassette #93-14
75 min. $2.50
Mary E. Reistroffer, Supra
CCIC

Loss is discussed in terms of the foster child.

Foster Parents' Own Children and Foster Children Memorex
Cassette #93-34
55 min. $2.50
Bennett R. Wong, M.D., Psychiatrist, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
CCIC

Various ways to handle problems that might occur between foster children, natural children and parents.

The Child Mother and Her Parents Memorex
Cassette #93-39
83 min. $2.50
Helen O. Oldred, R.N., Home School Coordinator, Montpelier Public School System, Montpelier, Vt.
CCIC

Concerns directed toward helping the young mother adjust.

Crisis of Children and Youth Memorex
Cassette #96-01
70 min. $2.50
Dr. Leontine R. Young, Supra
CCIC

Emphasis on a breakdown of social control due to process of rapid change in society. Crisis facing adults is stressed.

Identifying and Treating the Abused Child Memorex
Cassette #97-02
140 min. $2.50
Dr. Robert Ten Bensil, Associate Prof., Dept. of Pediatrics, Henneprin County, Minn.
CCIC

Society's role in this problem, identification of the abused child, and treatment of the child and his family.

Addresses of Media Distribution Centers

ABC Media Concepts
American Broadcasting Company
1330 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N. Y. 10019

BFA
BFA Educational Media (CBS)
211 Michigan Avenue
Santa Monica, Calif. 90404

CAROUF
Carousel Film, Inc.
1501 Broadway
New York, N. Y. 10036

CCIC
Child Care Information Center
532 Settlers Landing Road
Hampton, Va. 23669

CF
Churchill Films
662 N. Robertson Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90069

Children's Memorial Hospital
2300 Children's Plaza
Chicago, Ill. 60614

Contemporary Films
McGraw-Hill
1212 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N. Y. 10019

CORF
Coronet Films
65 E. South Water St.
Coronet Bldg.
Chicago, Ill. 60601

EPA
Educational Perspectives Associates
Box 213
De Kalb, Ill. 60115

Guidance Associates
757 Third Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

IFB
International Film Bureau
332 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

MH
McGraw-Hill
324 West 42nd Street
New York, N. Y. 10036

NFBC
National Film Board of Canada
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N. Y. 10019

New York University Film Library
26 Washington Place
New York, N. Y. 10003

Syracuse University
Film Library
Collendale Campus
1455 East Colvin Street
Syracuse, N. Y. 13210

Time-Life Films
43 West 16th Street
New York, N. Y. 10011

WW
Weston Woods Studios, Inc.
Weston, Conn. 06880

References from Research in Education (RIE)

The Management of Death in the Middle Class American Family, by Vidal S. Clay. Oct 1970, 20p., ED 043 068.

*Attitudes; Childhood Attitudes; Class Attitudes; *Death; Human Dignity; Middle Class; *Middle Class Culture; Middle Class Values; *Social Attitudes

Starting with the observation that attitudes towards death cannot be divorced from attitudes towards life, the author proceeds with a critical and reflective look at American society's poor management of death, both in terms of the dying person and the bereaved. Denial is the mechanism used to protect ourselves from facing the fact of death, and the result is a cold and inappropriate ritual which assigns the primary roles to the undertaker and the physician. Much is said abou the stages through which a dying person goes in making his peace with death, and about the "grief work" of the bereaved in learning to live with his new situation. The unfortunate and lonley ways in which people are forced to handle these critical periods is examined. Specific suggestions for changing the attitude toward death includes: (1) stop denying its existence; (2) humanize the procedures that surround it; (3) redesign the rituals so as to humanize them; and (4) teach about death, appropriately, throughout life.

The Dying Child: The Management of the Child or Adolescent Who is Dying, by William M. Easson. 1970, 103p., ED 043 977. Document not available through EDRS.

*Adolescents; Attitudes; *Childhood; *Death; Diseases; Parent Child Relationship; *Parent Counseling; Pathology; Personal Adjustment; Physiology; *Preschool Children

Primarily describing the child who must endure a lengthy terminal illness and prolonged period of dying, the text presents the developmental stages of the child's understanding of his own death. Characteristics of the child at various ages (preschool, elementary school, and adolescent) are examined in areas such as hospitalization effects, physiological reactions and disease symptoms, psychological and emotional effects, changes in social roles and relationships, fantasy and imagination, and religious interest. The reactions and adjustments of the family of a dying child, and the role and influence of the treatment personnel are explored. The provision of an atmosphere of love and security for the dying child is exmphasized throughout the text.

Available from: Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 East Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62703 ($5.75)

The Reactions of Family Systems to Sudden and Unexpected Death. Crisis Intervention in Acute Grief, by W. Vail Williams; And Others. Sept 1970, 19p., ED 044 723.

*Death; Family (Sociological Unit); Family Attitudes; Family Involvement; Family Problems; *Family Relationship; Interpersonal Relationship; *Personal Adjustment; *Role Perception; *Social Influences; Sociocultural Patterns

This paper describes an ongoing research project which is deisgned to test the effectiveness of crisis-oriented social systems intervention as a model for primary prevention with bereaved families. The families' immediate reactions to the death and their subsequent reorganization are discussed in light of two factors: (1) the interaction pattern that exists between the family and the larger social system; and (2) the interaction pattern that prevails within the family system itself. Observations to date have suggested that the degree to which a family will accept and benefit from outside intervention at the time of a death is a function of its incorporation of the norms and balues of so ciety into its own familial value system. In addition, the type of systems coping patterns employed by the family, as well as the role the deceased had assumed within the family system, have been found to be critical variables that influence the course of bereavement and subsequent readjustment. Data obtained from the second paper supports the contention that the behavior of bereaved individuals does progress through various stages of grief, and that readjustment of the family depends greatly on the role of the deceased prior to his death.

Children's Experience with Death, by Rose Zeligs. 22p., ED 076 237.

Adjustment Problems; *Childhood Attitudes; Concept Formation; *Death; *Emotional Adjustment; Literature Reviews; *Parent Attitudes; Parent Child Relationship; *Parent Influence; Psychological Needs

Children's concepts of death grow with their age and development the three-year-old begins to notice that living things move and make sounds. The five-year-old thinks that life and death are reversiable, but the six-year-old knows that death is final and brings sorrow. Children from eight through ten are interested in the causes of death and what happens after death. Adolescents think of death and what happens after death is fearsome yet fascinating, since they are very much aware of the life producing potentialities in their own bodies. Children's reactions to an experience with death are greatly influenced by parental attitudes. Parents can best help children deal with death

by not sending him away during the mourning periods, by encouraging him to participate in the fineral rites of parents, siblings, and other relatives, and by talking freely about the dead person. Children should absorb from their parents the basic truth that death is part of life and must be accepted as a reality.

Preventive Therapy with Siblings of a Dying Child, by Daniel Feinberg. Oct. 1969, 20p., ED 080 194.

*Affective Behavior; Anxiety; Case Studies; Catharsis; *Death; *Early Childhood; Hostility; Mental Health; *Psychiatry; *Psychotherapy; Siblings

A case study of psychiatric intervention for two sisters whose brother is dying of leukemia is presented. The therapeutic technique attempted to deal with teh threatened loss by a forthright approach to the reality situation, encouraging "immunizing" discussions, allowance for catharsis without severe regression, emphasis on reality organization, and direct initiation and enhancement of mourning through the use of transference materials. A theoretical discussion of the capacity of children to mourn is included. An empirical assessment of the therapy suggests that immediate ventilative help at a time of great stress was provided, but that there was little effect on the children's capacity to sustain prolonged mourning processes.

Also available from: Center for Preventive Psychiatry, 340 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, New York 10605 ($1.00)

Talking About Death with "Normal" Children Research Strategies and Issues, by Gerald P. Koocher. Aug 1973, 6p., ED 082 853.

*Adolescents; Anxiety; Child Development; *Death; *Elementary School Students; *Research Problems; *Student Attitudes

This paper discusses some of the issues (beyond the methodological considerations) involved in a study of children's ideas about death and how these ideas relate to their cognitive development. The three aspects discussed are (1) problems involved in getting permission from the dissertation research committee, the school principal and camp director, parents, and the children themselves; (2) deciding on what questions to ask and how to ask them; and (3) determining how to cope with possible subject reactions which might come up, in terms of potential stresses and unpleasant aftereffects.

Also available from: Dr. Gerald P. Koocher, Developmental Evaluation Clinic, The Children's Hospital Medical Center, 300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02115 (Free of charge)

Facilitation of Mourning During Childhood, by Gilbert Kliman; And Others. 1968, 35p., ED 084 011.

*Adolescents; *Case Studies; *Death; Elementary School Students; *Emotionally Disturbed Children; *Parent Child Relationship; Preschool Children; *Psychiatry; Siblings; Social Maturity; Therapy

This paper discusses case studies of children psychologically disturbed by the death of parents or siblings. Illustrations of mourning facilitation were mainly gathered from 16 orphaned children, ages 3-14. Some techniques used in helping children mourn include: discussing physical details of the illness, discussing previous deaths of animals and people, encouraging full and controlled expression of thoughts on death, helping children perceive the emotional reactions of family members, and encouraging mourning directly.

Also available from: Center for Preventive Psychiatry, 340 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, N. Y. 10605 ($1.00).

Preventive Opportunities in Childhood Bereavement. (Death of a Parent Study, by Gilbert Kliman. April 1964, 16p., ED 084 013.

Adolescents; *Clergymen; *Death; Elementary School Students; *Emotionally Disturbed Children; *Parent Child Relationship; Personality Development; Preschool Children; Prevention; *Psychiatry; Socially Deviant Behavior

This lecture to clerymen presents a discussion of childhood bereavement and possible long-term psychological effects. A correlation between the loss of a parent and later-life mental illness is suggested, as well as the need to look closely at children's unique ways of grieving. The clergyman's role in helping bereaved families is emphasized.

Also available from: Center for Preventive Psychiatry, 340 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, N. Y. 10605 ($1.00)

Children's Books: Views and Values, by Fritz J. Luecke, Comp. 1973, 92p., ED 085 080.

Booklists; *Childrens Books; Death; Racial Integration; Sex Discrimination; *Sociocultural Patterns; *Stereotypes; *Values; Violence

This book contains a collection of articles on children's books and is written for teachers. The problems, the trends, and the future of children's books are discussed in terms of sexism, realism, ethnicity, violence, racial integration, death, and moral values.

La Familia De La Raza. (The Family of the Race.), by Jose Armas. 1972, 38p., ED 091 096.

Activism; *Anglo Americans; *Cross Cultural Studies; *Cultural Background; Death; *Family Role; Human Dignity; Land Acquisition; Life Style; Majority Attitudes; *Mexican Americans; Moral Values; Political Influences; Self Concept; Sociocultural Patterns; Socioeconomic Influences; Values

Chicanos in this country have been in a constant state of struggle for economic and cultural survival; yet the Chicano's family has remained the most important part of his culture. Chicano values, customs, life styles, and language are still very much a part of his family. This publication discusses the Chicano's family, covering: (1) La Familia and the role it plays in the Chicano movement today; (2) the emerging identity of La Raza today; (3) the future of La Raza amid a changing Anglo-dominated society; (4) concepts of Chicanismo, arnalismo, and Compadrazgo; (5) Anglo/Chicano contrasts of familia values, perspectives of life/death, and the land; and (6) implications of future shock on La Raza.

Also available from: Raza Associates, 2633 Granite, N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87104 ($1.50 each; 15% discount on orders of 10 or more)

Death and the Curriculum, by Roger V. Bennett. Apr 1974, 18p., ED 093 782.

Curriculum Design; *Curriculum Development; *Curriculum Research; *Death; Educational Innovation; *Educational Needs; Educational Objectives; Educational Planning; Educational Research; Elementary Education; Evaluation Methods; Models; *Relevance (Education); Secondary Education

A study to discover why a significant void exists in the area of death education reports on the following objectives: (1) to design a conceptual framework for planning and evaluating death education; (2) to determine existence of a legitimate need to incorporate death education into elementary and secondary curricula: (3) to evaluate the feasibility of designing curricula on death and dying; and (4) to derive recommendations

from this investigation for planning, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating death curricula. A theoretical rationale is represented graphically by a conceptual framework to assess curricula potentialities of death and dying. Outlined in relation to foundations of the curriculum, curricular organizing centers, and teaching-learning interaction. Findings and analytic tool for systematically researching the complexities of curriculum development and that the issue of death is a useful vehicle to develop, study, and improve strategies for introducing controversial and innovative curricula.

Death in Current Children's Fiction: Sociology or Literature, by Marilyn Apseloff. Nov 1974, 17p., ED 101 371.

*Childrens Books; *Childrens Literature; *Death; Fiction; *Literary Analysis; Literary Criticism; Psychological Patterns; Social Attitudes

The mass production of books dealing with hitherto taboo subjects for children, such as drug use, divorce, illegitimacy, and death, is a growing trend in children's literature. This paper attempts to demonstrate the inherent difficulties in judging such books critically through a discussion of the handling of death in current children's fiction. Four books are examined for the sociological and psychological attitudes they take toward death as well as their literary value in terms of style, plot, and characterization: (1) "Annie and The Old One" by Miska Miles (for children six to eight); (2) "The Magic Moth" by Virginia Lee (for children eight to ten); (3) "A Taste of Blackberries" by Doris Buchanan Smith (for children eight to eleven); and (4) "Grover" by Vera and Bill Cleaver (for children ten to thirteen). This paper concludes that all of the books discussed, with the exception of "The Magic Moth," are commendable works, combining both quality and relevancy.

The Treatment of Death in Contemporary Children's Literature, by Carol E. Romero. 1974, 77p., ED 101 664.

Annotated Bibliographies; Childhood Attitudes; Child Psychology; *Childrens Books; *Content Analysis; *Death; Historical Reviews; Literary Analysis; Literary Criticism; Masters Theses; *Psychological Patterns; Realism; Social Attitudes; Social Values; *Sociocultural Patterns; Twentheith Century Literature

In order to evaluate the treatment of death in children's literature, and to compile a bibliography of books related to this theme, four areas of a child's relation to death were explored. The first area of investigation was of concepts of death evidenced at the child's various developmental stages, as documented in numerous psychological studies. The second area studied was the various reactions to death which a child might display. The third area discussed was the cultural attitudes of present day American society toward death, with special emphasis on how these attitudes influence the child's conception of death. Lastly, a review was made of American children's literature from colonial times to the present, noting the treatment of death as a reflection of the cultural values of each Era. Twenty-two books of juvenile fiction, for children up to age 12, were evaluated in terms of their treatment of death as a major theme. Most of the books were found to be of outstanding value in acquainting the young child with wholesome death concepts, were psychologically valid, and compiled with accepted social attitudes toward the subject.

References from Current Index to Journals in Education (CIJE)

"I Met Death One Clumsy Day," by Flora J. Arnstein. English Journal v61 n6; pp835-858 Sept. 1972.

Childhood Attitudes; *Creative Writing; *Death; Fear; Irony; *Poetry; *Student Alienation

A creative-writing teacher expresses concern about the recurrent theme of death in her students' poetry; numerous examples.

"Teaching About Death," by David W. Berg; George G. Daugherty. Today's Education v62 n3; pp46-47 Mar 1973.

Attitudes; *Course Descriptions; *Death; Experimental Curriculuml *Experimental Teaching; Junior High Schools; Relevance (Education; Social Values

University Laboratory School of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois, offered a mini-course on the topic of death to junior high school students. Results proved the topic to be meaningful and relevant.

"Preventing Suicides Among Children--What the Schools Can Do." by Dean Schuyler. Social Science Record v10 n2; pp25-29 Winter 1973.

Behavior Problems; Death; *Psychopathology; School Involvement; School Responsibility; *School Role; *Student Role; *Student School Relationship; *Student Teacher Relationship; *Suicide

The school probably has its greatest role to play with the pre-suicidal child, so that the suicidal crisis may be averted before it begins. In the schools this is effected by encouraging a more personalized teacher-pupil relationship--by encouraging extracurricular involvement as an alternative to withdrawal and isolation, and by educating teachers to recognize the warning signs of a potential suicidal crisis.

"Death Be not Distorted," by Joanne Zazzaro. Nation's Schools v91 n5; pp39-42, 102 May 1973.

*Course Content; *Course Objectives; *Death; Parent Participation; Public Schools; *Teacher Qualifications

Describes the need for and some initial efforts in the teaching of death to young people K-12.

"Helping the Parents of Children with Leukemia," by Vrinda S. Knapp; Howard Hansen. Social Work v18 n4; pp 70-75 Jul 1973.

*Family Counseling; *Family Problems; *Adjustment (To Environment); *Group Therapy; *Death; Social Work; Group Relations

When their child is diagnosed with leukemia, parents begin a process of anticipatory mourning. Group meetings with other such parents provide help in living through the process.

"Cognizance of the Death Taboo in Counseling Children," by Constance DeMuth Berg. School Counselor v21 n1; pp28-33 Sep 1973.

*Death; *Counselor Attitudes; *Counselor Role; *Children; *Cultural Factors; Counseling; Adjustment (To Environment); Family Life

It is the thesis of this article that it is important for all those who work with children to become aware of the restrictions which prevail in our society in regard to the subject of death so that understanding and guidance can be given to a child when death become a part of his personal experience.

"Death As Presented in Children's Books," by Robin L. Carr. Elementary English v50 n5; pp701-705 May 1973.

*Death; *Literary Perspective; *Childrens Books; *Annotated Bibliographies; Literature; Elementary Education; Literary Conventions

"Pervasive Death: An Avoided Concept," by John H. Krahn. Educational Leadership v31 n1; pp18-20 Oct 1973.

*Death; *Elementary School Curriculum; *Child Development Child Psychology; Child Rearing; Emotional Development; Emotional Experience

The concept of death must not be avoided in the elementary school but must be included as a meaningful way.

"When Was the Last Time you Took a Suicidal Child to Lunch?" by Dean Schuyler. Journal of School Health v43 n8; pp504-506 Oct 1973.

*Adolescents; *Death; *Emotionally Disturbed Children; *Parent Child Relationship; *Suicide; Accident Prevention; Accidents; Parent Influence; Schizophrenia; Psychological Characteristics

This article gives statistics on suicide rates among children and adolescents of different ages. It describes the various reasons behind suicide in children and the sumptoms of deep depression in children and adolescents. The author describes the suicidal student and the child survivor (of a suicidal death in the family) and suggests to the teacher ways of dealing with both.

"Childhood, Death, and Cognitive Development," by Gerald P. Koocher. Developmental Psychology v9 n3; pp369-375 Nov 1973.

*Cognitive Development; *Elementary School Students; *Adolescents; *Death; *Childhood Attitudes; Age Differences

Explored children's conceptions of death from a Piagetian framework. Significant changes in the direction of more realistic attitudes by children were noted as levels of cognitive development advanced.

"Children's Conceptions of Death," by John D. Melear. Journal of Genetic Psychology v123 (2nd half); pp 359-360 Dec 1973.

*Early Childhood; *Concept Formation; *Death

Children's expressed conceptions about death were analyzed into 4 categories: (1) Relative Ignorance, (2) Temporary State, (3) Final, but biological functioning continunes, and (4) Finality.

"Death Education," by John W. McLure. Phi Delta Kappan v55 n7; pp483-485 Mar 1974.

*Death; *Education; *Curriculum Development; *Public Schools

Lays out a beginning rationale for the inclusion of education on death and dying in the curriculum of the public schools, along with some cautionary notes concerning its implementation.

"Group Discussions With the Parents of Leukemic Children," by Warren A. Heffron; And Others. Pediatrics v52 n6; pp831-840 Dec 1973.

*Exceptional Child Research; *Parent; *Group Discussion; *Emotional Adjustment; Special Health Problems; Diseases; Death

"Anxiety in the Dying Child," by John J. Spinetta. Pediatrics v52 n6; pp841-845 Dec 1973.

*Exceptional Child Research; *Diseases; *Anxiety; *Death; Special Health Problems; Childhood; Emotional Adjustment

Twenty-five leukemic children aged 6 to 10 years related significantly more stories that contained elements of preoccupation with threat to their body integrity and functioning than did 25 control children with nonfatal chronic illnesses.

"Death as a Counseling Concern," by Loy O. Bascue; George W. Krieger. Personnel and Guidance Journal v52 n9; pp587-592 May 1974.

*Crisis Therapy; *Death; *Suicide; *Rehabilitation Counseling; *Counseling Goals; Supervision; Counselor Attitudes; Counseling Services

This article points out some situations in which counselors are likely to encounter the topic of death as a client concern (in counseling young children and adolescents, in rehabilitation settings, drug crisis clinics, runaway houses, etc.). An initial framework for providing therapeutic services to such clients is outlined.

"Young Children and Books on Death," by Barbara Morris. Elementary English v51 n3; pp395-398 Mar 1974.

*Death; *Childrens Books; *Fantasy; *Affective Objectives; Elementary Education; Educational Theories; Reading Material Selection; Reading Interests; Child Development; Affective Behavior

Using children's books about death as examples, suggests that perhaps we push children too quickly through the developmental tasks of childhood and that more research into the maturation process is needed before we succumb completely to "reality" teaching.

"Modern Treatment of Childhood Leukemia: The Patient and His Family," by Brigid G. Leventhal; Stephen Hersh. Children Today v3 n3; pp2-6 May-Jun 1974.

*Childhood; *Family Role; *Family Counseling; *Death; Diseases; Drug Therapy; Emotional Adjustment; Medical Services; Intervention; Group Counseling

Discusses how children with leukemia (and their families) cope with periods of illness and remission and handle questions about death. Reviews the etiology and treatment of leukemia.

"When Children Ask about Death," by Ruth Formanek. Elementary School Journal v75 n2; pp92-97 Nov 1974.

*Death; *Comprehension; *Children; *Emotional Response; *Guidelines; Age Differences; Reactive Behavior

Explores questions related to children's experience with death. Areas discussed are: (1) adult response to the child; (2) issues raised; (3) behavior reactions; (4) developmental influences on response; and (5) adult reactions. Guidelines are given to aid the adult in handling a child's reaction to death.

"Facing the Other Fact of Life: Death in Recent Children's Fiction," by Jane Abramson. School Library Journal v21 n4; pp31-33 Dec 1974.

*Childrens Literature; *Death; Adolescent Literature; Childrens Books; Literature Reviews; Annotated Bibliograhpies; Book Reviews

The treatment of death in children's fiction of the last five years is analyzed and evaluated.

"Why Isn't The Gerbil Moving Anymore," by Gerald P. Koocher. Children Today v4 n1; pp18-21 Jan-Feb 1975.

*Death; *Discussion (Teaching Technique);*Elementary School Students; *Teacher Responsibility; *Developmental Psychology; Emotional Adjustment; Childhood Interests; Childhood Needs; Class Activities

Offers suggestions appropriate for planned and spontaneous discussions about death which may be helpful to teachers, parents and care givers of young children.

"Personal Space as a Measure of a Dying Child's Sense of Isolation," by John J. Spinetta; And Others. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology v42 n6; pp751-756 Dec 1974.

*Children; *Sensory Deprivation; *Death; *Social Isolation; *Space Orientation; Research Projects; Learning Theories

Interpersonal distance measures were used in an attempt to objectify the sense of isolation said to be present in a child with fatal illness as he nears death. A theoretical explanation of the results is offered based on social learning theory.

"Helping Children To Cope With Death," by William D. Peterson; Richard L. Sartore. Elementary School Guidance and Counseling v9 n3; pp226-232 Mar 1975.

*Death; *Emotional Development; *Children; Elementary Education; State Of The Art Reviews; Child Development

This article discusses helping children cope with death. It also presents some of the issues related to the way our society deals with the topic and the reality of death.

"Development of an Investigatory Instrument to Measure Attitudes Toward Death," by Dale V. Hardt. Journal of School Health v45 n2; pp96-99 Feb 1975.

*Health Education; *Death; *Suicide; *Community Attitudes; Elementary Education; Secondary Education; Statistical Analysis; Teachers; Teacher Education

Attitudes toward the concept of death are assessed and compared in relation to sex, age, social position, church attendance, and recency of death experience of family or friends.

"Challenging the Last Great Taboo: Death," by Richard C. Nelson; William D. Peterson. School Counselor v22 n5; pp353-358 May 1975.

*Death; *Counseling; *Curriculum; *Group Counseling; Elementary Secondary Education; Educational Needs; State Of The Art Reviews

The author maintains that death education is a necessary part of the school curriculum. He proposes group exploration of this topic, the use of honest and direct terminology, and involvement in services for those who have died.

"Crisis Events and School Mental Health Referral Patterns of Young Children," by Robert D. Felner; And Others. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology v43 n3; pp305-310 Jun 1975.

*Behavior Patterns; *Crisis Therapy; *Problem Children; *Adjustment Problems; *Elementary School Counseling; Research Projects; Early Experience; Children; Death; Family Life

Study investigated the impact of two types of potential crisis-producing experiences on the referral patterns of maladapting primary grade school children: parental separation and divorce and parental death. Association between specific crisis history and specific school maladjustment patterns is seen to have implications for early detection and preventive efforts.

"A Group for Children with Deceased Parents," by James A. Cardarelle. Social Work v20 n4; pp328-329 Jul 1975.

*Group Dynamics; *Group Counseling; *Death; *Emotional Adjustment; *Psychological Needs; Mental Health; Affective Behavior

The group was begun to serve a narrowly defined and particularly vulnerable client-- the child grieving for a deceased parent. The author discusses recruiting participants and the group process of dealing with this specific emotional problem. Reactions of young people and the community are mentioned.

"Psychological Considerations of the Child with a Progressive Terminal Condition in a Residential Setting," by M. Ruth Fine. New Outlook for the Blind v69 n3; pp121-130 Mar 1975.

*Visually Handicapped; *Death; *Counselor Role; *Emotional Adjustment; *Family Attitudes; Exceptional Child Services; Psychologists; Residential Schools; Staff Role; Literature Reviews

Intended for psychologists in residential schools, the article contains a discussion of the psychosocial aspects of dealing with visually impaired children who have progressive terminal diseases.

"Fear of Death and Death Education," by Mary Louise Mueller. Notre Dame Journal of Education v6 n1; pp84-91 Spring 1975.

*Death; *Fear; *Anxiety; *Curriculum Design; *Religious Education; Experimental Curriculum; Educational Research; Social Sciences; Adolescence; Elementary Secondary Education

The experiment described in this paper is an attempt to test the hypothesis that formal death education can be effective in reducing the fear of death.

Postscript

The Educational Resources Information Center/Early Childhood Education Clearinghouse (ERIC/ECE) is one of a system of 16 clearinghouses sponsored by the National Institute of Education to provide information about current research and developments in the field of education. The clearinghouses, each focusing on a specific area of education (such as early childhood, teacher education, language and linguistics), are located at universities and institutions throughout the United States.

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